



NOTICE OF UPCOMING BILLING CHANGES

Ilwaco switches to monthly bills for residential water and sewer customers in March 2012

In an effort to provide our customers with the best possible service, the City of Ilwaco Water and Sewer Billing Department will implement monthly billing for all residential customers **beginning March 1, 2012**. Which means, on or about February 1, 2012, residential customers will receive a two-month bill for December/January service. Then on March 1, customers will receive a one-month bill for February service only and a monthly bill thereafter.

In recent years, the city has received many requests from citizens to convert from bi-monthly to monthly billing. The benefits of monthly billing to customers include:

- Ability to budget more efficiently by receiving water and sewer bills each month instead of bi-monthly.
- Ability to discover water service line, plumbing or irrigation system leaks sooner, allowing for prompt repairs and reduced high water bills caused by leaks.
- Ability to adjust water usage habits, especially during summer months, by closer monitoring of consumption.

Water rates increase slightly for 2012; no change for sewer rates

On November 28, 2011, the Ilwaco City Council adopted the 2012 water and sewer rates and connection charges. While water rates increased slightly, there was no increase in sewer rates.

The following are the new base rates for 2012:

Basic Rate	2011 Rate	2012 Rate
Residential	\$22.00	\$22.66
Commercial*	\$22.00	\$22.66
All water usage	\$3.22/100 CF	\$3.32/100 CF

*For larger meter sizes, see rates at www.ilwaco-wa.gov.

Just as a reminder, the basic sewer rate for residences, apartments, and full-time units in RV parks is \$64.50 per month. The basic monthly sewer rate for commercial businesses is \$89.64. Rates for hotel transient spaces, restaurants, hospitals, churches, lodges/halls and schools are higher.

New Stormwater utility fees included in water and sewer bills starting January 1, 2012

On November 28, 2011, the Ilwaco City Council adopted an ordinance creating a fund for administration, maintenance and operation of a stormwater utility. **Beginning with the February 2012 water and sewer bills**, a stormwater utility fee will be included on all residential and commercial bills.

Why do we need a stormwater fee?

Currently, money from the city's Streets Fund is used as the primary source of funding for stormwater services. As such, stormwater system maintenance, repairs and improvements compete for funds with roads. In addition, indebtedness from previous stormwater projects is currently being repaid through the Streets Fund.

How will properties be charged?

A stormwater utility fee would be charged based upon lot size, developed or undeveloped, and residential or commercial. All developed and undeveloped property within the City of Ilwaco would pay the stormwater utility fee, regardless of whether or not they receive water and sewer services. This includes houses, schools, public facilities, churches and businesses.

For those properties who receive monthly water and sewer bills, the fee will be included on the bill. Those properties that are undeveloped and do not receive a monthly water and sewer bill will be billed on an annual basis.

The following are the monthly stormwater utility rates for 2012:

Classification	2012 Rate	Description
All undeveloped parcels	\$3.50	Commercial and residential
Parcels 6000 SF or less	\$6.00	Residential
	\$7.00	Commercial
Parcels greater than 6000 SF	\$8.00	Residential
	\$9.00	Commercial

If you have any questions regarding water and sewer billing and rates, or stormwater utility rates, please call 360.642.3145 or email info@ilwaco-wa.gov.